

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A process for operating a water recovery plant comprising charging a storage tank with water contaminated with solids, said water recovered from a manufacturing or construction process, determining a parameter associated with the concentration of one or more selected contaminants in the storage tank, diluting the water contaminated with solids whereby the concentration of the one or more selected contaminants in the storage tank is at or below a desired level, and utilising water from the storage tank in the manufacturing process.
2. A process for operating a water recovery plant according to claim 1 wherein the manufacturing or construction process is the manufacture of ready mix concrete.
3. A process according to claim 2 wherein the contaminated water recovered includes washings from equipment used in the manufacture and transport of ready mix concrete.
4. A process according to claim 2 wherein the contaminated water is collected in a pit.
5. A process according to claim 2 wherein the contaminated water is pumped sequentially into a plurality of storage tanks.
6. A process according to claim 5 wherein the storage tanks incorporate a sensor for determining a parameter associated with one or more selected contaminants wherein upon the sensor reaching a predetermined level the tank is by-passed and the next storage tank in the sequence is filled.
7. A process according to claim 5 wherein contaminated water is fed from the storage tanks sequentially for use in the manufacture of ready mix concrete or washing manufacturing or transport equipment.
8. A process according to claim 6 wherein a by-passed tank is filled with uncontaminated water.
9. A process according to claim 8 wherein the uncontaminated water is sourced from a town water supply.
10. A process according to claim 8 wherein the uncontaminated water is sourced from a filter press used to remove excess solids from recycled water from the process of the present invention.

11. A process according to claim 2 wherein the contaminated water is contaminated with contaminants selected from the group consisting of inert fines, cementitious product, clay and combinations thereof.

12. A process according to claim 2 wherein the parameter determined is
5 selected from the group consisting of suspended solids and specific gravity.